

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 10798 131533Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9776

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 10798

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB, FR, PO

SUBJECT: CFDT AND THE PORTUGUESE INTERSINDICAL

1. ONCE AGAIN A THREE-MAN TEAM FROM INTERSINDICAL VISITED CFDT HEADQUARTERS DURING THE WEEK OF 5 APRIL. JACQUES MOREAU, HEAD OF CFDT'S POLITICAL AFFAIRS, GAVE LABCOUNS THE FOLLOWING RUNDOWN ON THE STORIES TOLD BY THE INTERSINDICAL REPRESENTATIVES WHO IN THE PROCESS LEFT NO DOUBT IN THEIR HOSTS' MINDS ABOUT THEIR BEING EITHER PCP MEMBERS OR FELLOW TRAVELERS:

(A) INTERSINDICAL HAS DONE FAIRLY WELL IN MAINTAINING CONTROL OF THE UNIONS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS BUT THE SERVICE SECTOR HAS BEEN SLIPPING AWAY.

(B) THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS PRESENTED AS "A THREAT TO THE UNITY OF THE PORTUGUESE LABOR MOVEMENT" WHICH, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PARIS 10798 131533Z

SAID MOREAU, IS A FAMILIAR LANGUAGE SEEKING TO

CONCEAL THE PERENNIAL GOAL OF COMMUNIST TACTICS,
NAMELY CONTROL OF THE UNION MOVEMENT.

(C) IN ORDER TO PRESERVE UNITY INTERSINDICAL IS
EMBARKING ON A BROAD PROGRAM OF CONTACTS WITH ALL
UNIONS IN THE COUNTRY, EVEN THOSE THAT ARE OUTSIDE
THE INTERSINDICAL, IN THE HOPE OF DEVELOPING A
COMMON GROUND ON WHICH TO MAINTAIN A UNITARY
ORGANIZATION. THE BAIT THE COMMUNISTS ARE USING
IN THIS OPERATION IS THE IDEA OF EXPANDING THE
MEMBERSHIP OF THE INTERSINDICAL SECRETARIAT TO
INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL LARGE UNIONS.

2. MOREAU MADE IT A POINT TO EXPLAIN THAT THE CFDT
IS ONLY TOO AWARE OF THE TRUE NATURE OF INTERSINDICAL
AS AN ORGANIZATION PRESENTLY UNDER PCP CONTROL AND
THAT THE CFDT CONTACTS WITH IT ARE JUSTIFIED IN
TERMS OF MAINTAINING ACCESS TO AN ORGANIZATION
WHOSE FINAL STRUCTURE AND PHILOSOPHY HAVE YET
TO BE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED.
RUSH

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